

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A bacterial culture medium, for use under anaerobic conditions, comprising at least one metal complex which allows the oxidative polymerization of an indoxyl chemical derivative and a substrate containing an indoxyl chemical derivative selected from 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-b-D-galactoside, 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-phosphate, 5-bromo-4-chloro-indolyl-N-acetyl-b-D-glucosaminide, 5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indolyl-b-D-galactopyranoside, 5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indolyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside, and 5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indolyl phosphate to result in an insoluble colored compound.
2. (Previously presented) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, in which said metal complex has a concentration of between 0.3 and 0.9 mg/ml, preferably 0.6 mg/ml.
3. (Original) The culture medium as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, in which said metal complex is ammoniacal iron citrate.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously presented) The culture medium as claimed in claim 4, in which said substrate has a concentration of between 10 and 500 mg/l.
6. (Previously Presented) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it is intended for the detection of anaerobic bacteria, aerobic anaerobic bacteria and any bacterium producing a  $\beta$ -galactosidase.
7. (Previously presented) The culture medium as claimed in claim 6, characterized

in that it is intended for culturing bacteria of the genus *Bifidobacterium*, *Clostridium*, *Citrobacter*, *Escherichia*, and/or *Bacteroides*.

8. (Original) The culture medium as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that it comprises cysteinated Columbia medium.

9. (Previously presented) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, in addition, magnesium sulfate at a concentration of between 5 mM and 100 mM and/or at least one antibiotic.

10-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) The culture medium as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:

a) a medium containing bacteria, ~~wherein the bacteria is~~ having been cultured under anaerobic conditions, and containing at least one substrate containing an indoxyl chemical derivative resulting in an insoluble colored compound; and

b) at least one oxidizing metal complex, wherein at least one oxidizing metal complex is ammoniacal iron citrate,

wherein the bacteria contains one of an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies, a color of the colonies, and both an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies and a color of the colonies.

26. (Previously presented) The culture medium as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:

bacteria, wherein the bacteria is cultured in said medium and contains one of an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies, a color of the colonies, and both an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies and a color of the colonies.

27. (Previously presented) The culture medium as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising an enzyme allowing the release of an indoxyl chemical derivative from a substrate containing an indoxyl chemical derivative.